



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/752,939	12/29/2000	Bruce L. Gibbins	01005-0121 (41946-251368)	9231

7590 08/02/2005

Mary Anthony Merchant Ph D
Trouman Sanders LLP
Bank of America Plaza
600 Peachtree Street NE Suite 5200
Atlanta, GA 30308-2216

EXAMINER

GHALI, ISIS A D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

1615

DATE MAILED: 08/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/752,939

Applicant(s)

GIBBINS ET AL.

Examiner

Isis Ghali

Art Unit

1615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 June 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6,8,12 and 21-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6,8,12 and 21-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The receipt is acknowledged of applicants' amendment, request for extension of time, and request for RCE, all filed 06/15/2005.

Claims 5, 7, 9-11, and 13-20 have been canceled, and claims 37-39 have been added.

Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 12, 21-39 are included in the prosecution.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 06/15/2005 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

Art Unit: 1615

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims, 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 12, 34, 36-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 5,792,090 ('090).

US '090 discloses wound dressing that supply oxygen to the wound for optimal healing and minimization of infection because the wound causes diffusion limited access and limits the oxygen supply to the wound (abstract; col.2, lines 28-31). The dressing comprises hydrogel or polymeric foam comprising elements that react to generate oxygen that are hydrogen peroxide and catalyst such as magnesium dioxide or enzymes (col.6, lines 6-26). The catalyst is contained in the foam which absorbs hydrogen peroxide into the foam to produce oxygen (col.7, lines 48-55). The hydrogel or foam can be guar gum or polyacrylamide and further comprises collagen, i.e. non-gellable foam (col.4, lines 39-42; col.12, line 7).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of

Art Unit: 1615

the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claim 1-4, 6, 8, 12, 21-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ladin, US 5,792,090 ('090) and Gilchist et al., US 6,187,290 ('290).

The present claim 1 is directed to a product comprising matrix of polymer containing oxygen generated from reaction of hydrogen peroxide and a catalyst. The process of making the product do not impart patentability to the product as it does not result into a materially different product.

US '090 discloses wound dressing that supply oxygen to the wound for optimal healing and minimization of infection because the wound causes diffusion limited access and limits the oxygen supply to the wound (abstract; col.2, lines 28-31). The dressing comprises hydrogel or polymeric foam comprising elements that react to generate oxygen that are hydrogen peroxide and catalyst such as magnesium dioxide or enzymes (col.6, lines 6-26). The catalyst is contained in the foam which absorbs hydrogen peroxide into the foam to produce oxygen (col.7, lines 48-55). The hydrogel or foam can be guar gum or polyacrylamide and further comprises collagen, i.e. non-gellable foam (col.4, lines 39-42; col.12, line 7).

US '290 discloses a product suitable for wound dressing made of foam comprising foam product comprising mixture of polyacrylamide and guar gum (abstract; col.4, lines 12-20; col.6, lines 18-19). The foam comprises gas entrapped into small bubbles therein forming closed cell foam that form protective cover to the wound and may be used to deliver active agents selected from antibacterial agents, such as chlorhexidine and silver; growth factor; and protein (col.2, lines 26-32; col.3, lines 40-43; col.4, lines 41-50; col.5, lines 5-10). The foam composition further comprises glycerol and water that claimed by applicants' as plasticizer and hydration agents; and silicone that claimed by applicants' as water loss control agent (col.2, line 34; col.7, line 11).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide foam comprising oxygen generated from the reaction of hydrogen peroxide and a catalyst as described by US '090 and add active agents to the foam as disclosed by US '290, motivated by the teaching of US '290 that that foam forms protective cover to the wound and meanwhile delivers active agents, with reasonable expectation of having foam wound dressing comprising oxygen and active agents that are beneficial to the wound that provides optimal wound healing with minimal risk of infection.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4, 6, 8, 12, 21-39 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Art Unit: 1615

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Isis Ghali whose telephone number is (571) 272-0595.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 7:00 to 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thurman Page can be reached on (571) 272-0602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Isis Ghali
Examiner
Art Unit 1615

Isis Ghali

ISIS GHALI
PATENT EXAMINER